

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for providing a network environment of information data exchange by setting a closed network as requested from a plurality of clients, comprising:

receiving a request to provide said network environment with an application form from one of said clients representing a group, the group including member clients and the application form including mail addresses of the member clients being inputted;

setting said closed network for each of said member clients in the group ~~requesting said closed network~~ in response to the received request; ~~and~~

informing each of the member clients ~~said client~~ of use permission based on a predetermined discriminator and an access priority, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network; and managing a use time of said closed network for the group.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A method for providing a network environment of information data exchange by setting a closed network as requested from a plurality of clients, comprising:

receiving a request to provide said network environment from said clients representing a group, the group including member clients;

setting said closed network for each of said member clients in the group in response to the received request ~~requesting said network by said server and informing said client of use permission based on a predetermined discriminator;~~

transmitting confirmation information to join the closed network to all member clients and receiving a confirmation from each of the member clients;

informing each of the member clients of use permission based on a predetermined discriminator and an access priority, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network; and

managing a use time of said closed network for the group

~~giving said client informed at said setting and informing access priority to said closed network and starting measurement of a use time of said closed network, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network;~~

~~inquiring said client about whether or not to extend when said network use time with measurement started at said giving and starting passes a predetermined time; and~~

~~extending said closed network use time when said client requests for extension for said inquiry at said inquiring.~~

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A system for providing a network environment of information data exchange by setting a closed network as requested from a plurality of clients, comprising:

means for receiving a request to provide said network environment with an application form from one of said clients representing a group, the group including member clients and the application form including mail addresses of the member clients being inputted;

means for setting said closed network for each of said member clients in the group in response to the received request ~~requesting said network by said means for receiving a request by a server and informing said client of use permission based on a predetermined discriminator; and~~

means for informing each of the member clients of use permission based on a predetermined discriminator and an access priority, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network; and

means for managing a use time of said closed network for the group

~~means for giving said client informed by said means for setting and informing access priority to said closed network and managing a use time of said closed network, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network.~~

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A server for providing a network environment of information data exchange to a plurality of clients by setting a closed network, comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a message with an application form transmitted from one of said clients representing a group, the group including member clients and the application form including mail addresses of the member clients being inputted;

~~a data converter configured to convert said message according to an environment of said client;~~

~~a transmitter configured to transmit said message after conversion;~~

an access controller configured to set said closed network and to control accessing in said closed network in consideration of access priority based on a discriminator included in said message;

a transmitter configured to inform each of the member clients of use permission based on a predetermined discriminator and an access priority, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network; and

a time manager configured to manage a use time of said closed network for the group

~~a client manager configured to check said discriminator of said client;~~
~~a schedule storage storing time management information of said closed network; and~~
~~a network environment manager configured to manage said closed network with the~~
~~access priority, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients~~
~~of the group being accessible to said closed network.~~

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A client device used in a system for providing a network environment of information data exchange with other client devices and a server, the client device comprising:

a receiving unit configured to receive a request to provide said network environment from said clients representing a group, the group including member clients;

a network controller configured to set said closed network for each of said member clients in the group in response to the received request;

a communication unit configured to transmit confirmation information to join the closed network to all member clients and to receive a confirmation from each of the member clients;

a transmitter configured to inform each of the member clients of use permission based on a predetermined discriminator and an access priority, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network; and

a time manager configured to manage a use time of said closed network for the group

~~a communication device configured to communicate with said server having an access~~
~~controller configured to control accessing in a closed network accessed by a plurality of~~
~~clients representing a group in consideration of access priority, said access priority~~

~~representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network;~~

~~a communication setting manager configured to prepare for communication passes with said server;~~

~~a receiver configured to receive a message transmitted from said server;~~

~~a store configured to store said message;~~

~~a converter configured to convert said message into a display data format and convert input data to a message; and~~

~~a terminal job manager configured to manage said communication data conversion.~~

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A server for providing a network environment of information data exchange with a plurality of clients according to Claim 4,

wherein said access priority is based on an Internet protocol address of said client.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Original): A server for providing a network environment with a plurality of clients, according to Claim 4,

wherein said server further has a service giving means for billing said client according to a use time designated by said client and an extended time used by said client.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A closed network service providing method for a server which is configured to communicate with a plurality of client devices via a communication network, comprising:

receiving a request to provide said network environment with an application form from one of said clients representing a group, the group including member clients and the application form including mail addresses of the member clients being inputted;

setting said closed network for each of said clients in the group in response to the received request;

transmitting confirmation information to join the closed network to all member clients and receiving a confirmation from each of the member clients;

informing each of the member clients of use permission based on a predetermined discriminator and an access priority, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network; and

managing a use time of said closed network for the group

~~receiving a closed network service request from a contract client device which represents a group of client devices, wherein each client device in the group uses said closed network service being requested and a priority of said closed network service is controlled by said server in consideration of access priority, said access priority representing a priority of the group, only member clients of the group being accessible to said closed network;~~

~~making a contract with the contract client for a reservation of the closed network service, wherein the contract includes at least an allowed use time of the closed network service;~~

~~establishing communication passes with each client device included in the group to allow each client device to use the closed network; and~~

~~monitoring an actual use time of the closed network to compare with the allowed use time.~~